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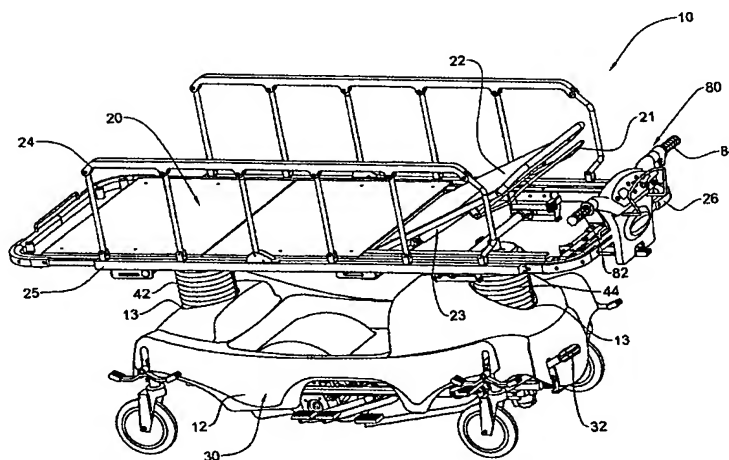
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(54) Title: **MANEUVERABLE DEVICE FOR TRANSPORTING LOADS OVER A SURFACE**



(57) Abstract: A maneuverable device for transporting a load over a surface, which finds particular application in a hospital bed for the transportation of patients and in a wheelchair for transporting patients or passengers in an air terminal, for example. The device has a platform for supporting a load to be transported mounted on a base comprising a plurality of castors. One or more one auxiliary wheels are mounted for rotation about at least one fixed axis with respect to said base, and a power unit configured for providing motive power to the auxiliary wheels is provided. A driving unit is provided for steering the device, the driving unit operating independently of the auxiliary wheels.